

THE NUR AFSEAN

Vol. VI.

FRIDAY:—SEPTEMBER, 26th, 1902.

No. 39.

Editorial Notes.

The following criticism of the Report of the Education Commission by the editor of the *Makhzan-i-Masili* is so just and to the point that we reproduce it for the benefit of our readers. Every friend of private and aided schools should let their voices be heard. The *Makhzan-i-Masili* says:

"The Report of the University Commission is sure to call forth earnest protest from some of the oldest and best friends of education in India. The Report encourages the Director of Public Instruction in each Province to kill off as quickly as possible the colleges which have sprung out of the heart of the people, born of patriotism, race pride, local attachments, religious zeal &c. unless indeed these colleges can shew in their infancy the strength and perfection of age. The Report says, not in words perhaps but in spirit. 'We want no more colleges struggling for life, however dear that little flickering life may be to those who have put their hearts into it and are striving to strengthen and perfect it; we care not for the wishes of the philanthropic and religious bodies anxious to found and maintain colleges of their own. We discourage your efforts, unless from the start you can shew as large a staff and profuse expenditure as a Govt. College. The young College is now to be forced to

fix the minimum fee so high that some of those for whose benefit it was founded cannot pay the fee. These young and independent colleges are now to be worried by visits of the Inspector or Director that he may report whether they have fallen below the affiliation standard, although the College may not be receiving a kauri of public money, trusting for its support to the self-sacrificing service of its Professors and the benevolence of its friends. Would the Forman Christian College, Lahore, or the Mahomedan College, Aligarh, have survived such handling the year of their founding or for several years after. Those of us who know how the great colleges in America, Harvard, Yale, * Princeton, and a score more, began on a small scale, without a penny of State aid; how they struggled for existence their first years, maintained wholly by private funds and enterprise even as they are today, are amazed at the proposal of the Commission, which, stripped of words, means death to private effort. Is it fair or wise to put into the hands of the Director of Public Instruction the power to crush young colleges, which are neither receiving nor asking aid from Government. We had thought that the policy of Government was to encourage private effort, and so build up Institutions which would enable Government gradually

* It may add weight to this testimony to say that the writer received the degree of B.A. from Yale thirty six years ago and his residence in India dates back more than thirty years.

to reduce its expenditure on higher education. The Report just issued does not proclaim any change of this policy, but he who runs can read between the lines that a radical change is now proposed, and that inimical to colleges founded by private effort, unless at the time they ask for affiliation with the University they can make a show of a strong staff and abundant resources, and the judge of these is to be the Director of Public Instruction, for on his favorable report the affiliation is allowed and continued from year to year. Against this there would be little objection were the College asking or drawing aid from Govt. but the Report goes far beyond this and says even to a College refusing financial aid from Govt. You must charge all your students a certain minimum fee. You must shew to the satisfaction of the Director that another College is needed in the community. You must have ample buildings, a strong staff of teachers and large resources to shew at once, and then we will consider whether we will allow you to live and breathe the University atmosphere for one year, and our Educational Doctor, whenever he likes, will examine your lungs and limbs with a view to strangling you to death if he thinks you are not growing strong fast enough. The Director is not in a position to put the right value on the influence of a Professor who is known by his pupils to be doing double work on half the salary he could command in another sphere. The touch of such a life day by day

is worth more to the young men of India than a hundred moral text books. President Garfield said that the best College in America was a log with Mark Hopkins at one end and a student at the other. It is the College born it may be of benevolence or race pride or religious zeal which can command the services of such men. To discourage the founding of such colleges, or to harass them to death when they ask no aid of favour of any kind from Government save the privilege of sending their students to compete for the University degrees, is a policy which we cannot believe our broad minded and far seeing Viceroy will approve. We appeal to him for a reversal of this policy, and we appeal with the greater hope because of his knowledge of the great American colleges which a century and more ago were struggling into life, sustained then by the loyalty and enthusiasm of only a few friends, but now receiving every year gift by the lakhs. And so it will be in India. The benevolent and religious people will in time back these young Colleges as they never will Government Institutions, and the result will be that in less than a hundred years Government may well hand over higher education to the people and turn its funds into other channels."

Some time since the Mirza Sahib of Qadian came out with a learned statement in defence of the Arabian Prophet of whom the Qur'an tells us repeatedly that he was a sinner, who had need of forgiveness. Many passages have been cited in proof. But the Mirza was not satisfied. He came gallantly to the defence and announced that the Arabic word (*zamb*) used in the passages alluded to above was never used in the sense of actual transgression, but only of the bias to evil which belongs to human nature.

Unfortunately for this specious apology, a cursory examination of the passages is sufficient to dispel the illusion. In Sura Muhammad V. 21, the statement is "Ask pardon for thy Sin (*zamb*) and for that of believing men and believing women." Here the sin of the prophet is the same as that of other

Muslims. If he be sinless so are they. If they be sinful so is he.

In the Sura al Fatah V. 2, we read, "That God may forgive thee thy preceding and thy subsequent sin." It is impossible to apply the word here to a prenatal tendency to evil. The transgressions alluded to are actual. Some of the commentators refer them to "sins committed as well in the times of ignorance as since" i. e. before his call to the prophetic office and afterwards.

These passages are sufficient to disprove the claim that the word *zamb* does not connote actual sin. Many passages can be cited to show that its ordinary meaning is that of actual transgression of law.

Current Thought & Incident.

SALVATION BY ATONEMENT.

The coarse notion of salvation that it means a transference from a place of danger to a place of security, from a state of pain to a state of pleasure, is, we need hardly say, thoroughly un-Christian. Salvation includes many things—forgiveness, strength, vision, purity, and communion, but in the main Christian experience testifies that forgiveness comes first. The sense of guilt demands it. Being guilty, we have to endure a deserved exclusion from the Divine love. This is the worst of our punishments, but there are many more; and these punishments are inflicted not in the mere course of nature, but by the act of a Living and Righteous Will. The discovery of salvation is that through Christ, through His atoning death, this Righteous Will that punishes will also forgive. The mercy and the judgment of God were made evident together when CHRIST was delivered up for our offences. That was the grandest moment in the moral history of the Supreme. It is, as Christian experience universally witnesses, when the soul apprehends the mystery of the Cross, and sees its iniquities made to meet on CHRIST, that it obtains an entrance into the favour it had forfeited. That entrance—the reconciliation—is the central element in forgiveness. It is the apprehension of that which produces the sense of pardon. The Christian sacrifice is a sanctifying as well as a justifying power, but it is under its justifying aspect that it presents itself first. JOHN BUNYAN tells us how the conviction possessed him, "I must go to Jesus." It is this going to Jesus which is the beginning of salvation. It is this recourse to Jesus which sets us free from the law of sin and death, and turns the hostile and estrang-

ed Deity into a friend. In this glorious passage the soul is with CHRIST all the time, and confesses Him as its all in all. Through CHRIST it is brought to God, and strained to His bosom. The consequences of sin are a secondary concern. God will not punish what He has forgiven. Whatever He sends to us in the way of pain thereafter is sent as chastisement, and is under the measure and administration of God the Father. As in the mystical doctrine the relation of the soul to God is chiefly the relation of the Creator to the creature, the ignorant, distant, time-born darkened spirit finding the very light of light, in the evangelical experience the relation is rather that of the sinner to the judge. In mysticism renunciation is the abandonment of all that hinders vision. In the evangelical experience renunciation is the abandonment of all trust in our own merits that we may lay hold of the merits of CHRIST.

British Weekly.

PATIENCE.

One of the sweetest virtues that adorns the Christian's life is patience. It is not so easily cultivated in view of the weakness of human nature. The human body is a great network of nerves. They can easily be unstrung. When thus affected impatience becomes natural. It is a wonderful triumph of will power and Divine Grace when, under such circumstances, patience, like some wonderful flower, reveals its beauty and loads the air with its rich fragrance. It is the design of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to make men patient. To quiet the waves of unrest that may arise within the heart. To hush the passions that may be aroused by the provocations and temptations of life. When the storm rages without to witness the exhibition of quietness and patience is most charming. Such a spirit has great value. The patient souls cannot be too highly praised. They deserve a place of prominence in the galaxy of the world's heroes. No virtue can outshine the virtue of patience. We are exhorted in the world of God "to let patience have her perfect work." It is to be cultivated. It is a rare flower in the wilderness of briars. What an aroma goes out from such an example of patience as it furnished in the life of our Lord Jesus Christ!

It is in the home where this virtue is put to a severe test and also manifests itself in the most remarkable way. Our mothers, how patient they were! Like a flood-tide our memories

are filled with the hundred and one instances when the calmness of their actions and the sweetness of their dispositions left an indelible impression on our minds of the true nobility of their lives. The grace of God should sweep out of our hearts everything that is ugly. It will do it if we only let it have the right of way. While we cannot be angels, we "are called to be saints," and saints should be saintly in disposition and life. Reader, try and overcome by the aid of divine grace the impatience that has long disturbed your peace and left an unfavorable impression on those about you. The world expects better things of us. They place a high estimate on the religious life. We should not disappoint the reasonable expectations of those who are strangers to the heavenly influence that has come into our hearts and lives. But on the other hand, our manifestation of those qualities that are inseparable from godly living should be both clear and convincing.—Selected.

SOME STRANGE THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

Botanists tell us of a curious flower that grows in Australia. The plant is about six inches in height and bears bunches of red flowers about the size of a pea. These tiny flowers are meat eaters. Every insect that touches one of the flowers is instantly caught and the petals at once close about it, holding it firmly until all the juices are pressed from the body. Then the dead insect is dropped to the ground. The peculiar thing about this plant is that if the flower is touched with any substance that is not alive, it at once opens its petals, dropping out the object, which it has in some unexplained way discovered cannot be eaten.

LEANING TOWERS.

Visitors to Bologna are generally puzzled by the two towers—the Asinelli and the Garisenda. If judged impartially they are not better examples of brickwork than can be seen by the thousands in the factories of Lancashire. They have suffered from settlements, and have long ceased to possess verticality. The Garisenda, especially, is so much out of plumb one wonders why it has not collapsed. But Italy exercises so much glamor over the judgment that we may occasionally hear travelers speak of the towers as if they were the most picturesque constructions which have an important function in general views of the city. The Garisenda has, however, literary

interest, for Dante refers to it in his "Inferno," comparing the gaint who stoops to seize him and Virgil to the tower at a time when it was cloud-capped. The inclination of the Garisenda is due to a sudden sinking of the soil, but it has stood so well there must be some pity for it for, as far as can be judged, it can hardly escape from a collapse. The soil which so long was unaffected by earth movements is now sinking, and produces cracks in the walls of the structure, which is square in plan and about one hundred and eighty feet in height. The mortar is falling out of the joints. It is perhaps excusable, says the architect, for the authorities of the old scholarly city, which was known as the Alma Mater Studiorum, to imagine that the tower cannot be overthrown, and to assume that its security can be insured by the application of a little rouge; but a structure that is ten feet out of the perpendicular, and is nearly a thousand years old, demands a more efficacious remedy.—Scientific American.

MIDNIGHT DARKNESS AT NOON.

A black pall, that literally turned midday into night in a few seconds, enveloped New York city at noon on Aug. 3, making it darker than it is ordinarily at night, when the streets and stores are lighted. The uncanny darkness gave everybody a creepy feeling. Every trolley and elevated car had a number of crying women, screaming children and nervous, fidgety men. In the churches, congregations exhibited the same anxiety, while sextons and assistants scurried about turning on electric or gas lights. On the elevated and surface cars conductors turned on the lights. The spectacle of strings of illuminated cars moving along at midday was a strange one.

The night-like darkness lasted but five or six minutes. During that time ordinary print could not be read without the aid of artificial light. It was darkest at two minutes before noon. Crowds of pleasure-seekers were on their way to Coney Island and other resorts when the peculiar storm swept down upon the city.

SOME FACTS ABOUT THE BIBLE.

Here are some interesting facts about the Old Testament that it took one man three years' time to figure out. "I cut it from a monthly paper for your page of Odds and Ends," writes Elsie Rhein, of 38 Upton street, Chicago.

There are 39 books, 929 chapters, 23,214 verses, 520,439 words, and 2,728,109 letters.

The middle book is Proverbs.

The middle chapter is Job 29.

The middle verse would be 2 Chronicles 20: 18, if there were a verse more, and verse 17 if there were a verse less.

The word "and" occurs 35,543 times.

The word "Jehovah" occurs 6,855 times.

The shortest verse is 1 Chr 1: 25.

The twenty-first verse of Ezra 7 contains all the letters of the alphabet.

The nineteenth chapter of the Second Book of Kings and the thirty-seventh chapter of Isaiah are practically the same.

In the New Testament there are 27 books, 260 chapters, 7,569 verses, 181,258 words and 833,380 letters.

The middle book is 2 Thessalonians.

The middle chapter would be Romans 13 if there were a chapter more, and Romans 14 if a chapter less.

The middle verse is Acts 14: 17.

The shortest verse is John 11: 35.

The middle chapter of the entire Bible is also the shortest—the 117th Psalm.

The middle verse is the eighth of the 118th Psalm.

An international Conference on Young People and Missions.

By Luther D. Wishard.

The Need of a Young People's Missionary Movement.—The call for a general conference of the leaders of movements which are engaging the young people and children of the churches in rendering a larger service to the cause of home and foreign missions in the outgrowth of a deep conviction that the present missionary situation demands a more thorough organization of our young people into strong, aggressive, denominational missionary movements.

Selection.

BE STRONG.

Be strong!

We are not here to play, to dream, to drift.

We have hard work to do, and loads to lift.

Shun not the struggle; face it. This is God's gift.

Be strong.

Say not the days are evil—Who's to blame?

And fold the hands and acquiesce—O shame!

Stand up, speak out, and bravely in God's name

Be strong!

It matters no how deep intrenched the wrong,

How hard the battle goes, the day, how long.

Faint not fight on. To-morrow comes the song.

—Maltbie Devenport Babcock.

Telegrams.

London, Sept. 18.

The Boer Generals appear to have abandoned their European tour largely owing to a plain hint given by Germany and other Powers that they would not allow anti-British demonstrations.

London, Sept. 18.

At a banquet given at Kursk, the Tsar toasted the Shah, and the prosperity of Persia and the development of relations and friendship with Russia. The Shah replied hoping that the ties uniting the two countries which are already so firm would be drawn still closer.

London, Sept. 18.

The *Morning Post*, in discussing a passage of the last statistical abstract for India relating to the police, deprecates any large increase in salaries, as such would require fresh taxation. It is possible, it says, to pay too dearly for efficiency after Western models. The danger of going too far in this direction is greater than any likely to arise from such corruption as may be found among the police, which is always exaggerated.

London, Sept. 18.

Owing to civil warfare threatening interference with trans Isthmian traffic, fifty American marines with a quickfiring gun in an armoured truck are accompanying trains to Colon and Panama.

Calcutta, Sept. 18.

The throat-cutting that was witnessed a few months ago between a British and an American syndicate is shortly, I understand, to cease. The *St. James Gazette* asserts that the Imperial Tobacco Company and the American Trust are likely to join their forces in one immense combine.—*Englishman Special*.

London, Sept. 18.

The Peary *Whitard* expedition has arrived at Sydney, Cape Breton. It did not arrive at the North Pole, but made important scientific discoveries.

London, Sept. 18.

The Khedive has left Vienna for Constantinople.

Sir E. Barton, speaking at Toronto, said that twenty years hence the Colonies would not submit to be controlled by the motherland without a voice. He eulogised Home statesmen for their grasp of colonial problems.

SHORTS London, Sept. 20.

The Queen of the Belgians has died at Spa. She was seized with a heart attack at dinner. None of the family were present.

London, Sept. 20.

The Boer Generals are at Antwerp. They were ovated, but no anti-British cries were raised.

Botha lectured in the evening and appealed for funds for distressed Boers.

London, Sept. 21.

The Hon'ble Sir E. Barton and party have sailed from British Columbia homewards. Speaking at a banquet Sir E. Barton said that Australia would favour the mother-country not by concessions from existing tariff, but by imposing duties on foreigners, principally Germany and the United States.

Calcutta, Sept. 22.

As a result of the recent Colonial Conference the Australians propose to contribute £20,000 sterling annually towards the naval defence of the Empire.—*Indian Daily News Special*.

London, Sept. 21.

The American warships *Cincinnati* landed eighty bluejackets and two more quick-firers at Colon yesterday.

London, Sept. 20.

The *Fram* has arrived at Stavanger. She was four winters icebound in Jones Sound. Attempts to blow up the ice were vain. A heavy southern drift freed her in July. The unexplored region of Ellesmere and westward were mapped.

The Sultan yesterday informed M. Zin rief that the question of passage of four Russian torpedo boats through the Dardanelles will be settled to Russia's satisfaction.

Madras, Sept. 20.

A reliable estimate of the number of passengers who were booked to travel past Mangapatnam by the ill-fated train wrecked last week has now been made available. The figures collected up to the present show that 1154 people were booked to travel beyond the scene of disaster, of whom 1264 were 3rd class, 19 2nd class and 3 1st class. Making allowance for passengers travelling through from other lines, it is calculated that the total number cannot be more than 150. The maximum accommodation in the train for passengers was 256 3rd class, 36 2nd class and 10 1st class.

Lord Kitchener's arrival in the Delhi camp has been notified for the 18th December. His Lordship's quarters are being prepared at the back of the Circuit House.

Captain F. A. B. Fryer, 6th Dragoons, returns from leave Home early next month to resume his appointment of Private Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of Burma.

It is however, understood that Austria has proposed to the signatory Powers of the Treaty of Berlin, that Roumania should be called upon to explain her treatment of Jews.—*Englishman Special*.

London, Sept. 22.

The Khedive arrived at Constantinople on Saturday. He was received by the Sultan, and proceeded to the Konak on the Bosphorus.

The Sanitary board at Constantinople has obliged the Khedivial steamer *Imilia* to quit Glazomene for the quarantine station because of a case of cholera aboard. The British Embassy strongly protested.

London, Sept. 22.

M. Zinovieff has called the Sultan's serious attention to the condition of Macedonia, and the absence of order and authority among the Albanians.

The *Standard* states that an *Iracle* has been issued authorising the passage of four torpedo boats at intervals of twenty-four hours under a commercial flag and carrying no ammunition nor naval crews.

London, Sept. 22.

The *Standard's* Shanghai correspondent wires that the Boxers have destroyed the China Inland Mission at Meichow. No lives were lost. They are now threatening the cities of Tanchien, Hungyu and Kiating.

Bombay, Sept. 22.

Advices from Aden state that Ihu Rashid is at present at his capital, and it is not true, as alleged, that he is preparing for an expedition. His treasury will not permit him to raise another large army. The prolonged hostilities in which he has been engaged for several years have caused great losses to him; besides, he has lost a great deal of income, including heavy taxes which he used to impose upon and take either by right or by might from pilgrims and other caravans that used to pass through his country. All caravans have changed their direction and go towards Damascus and through Syria.

London, Sept. 23.

The Boer Generals, lecturing at Rotterdam yesterday on behalf of the distressed Boers' fund, announced that an American had contributed a hundred thousand dollars.

The lecture at Antwerp yielded £400.

The Boer Generals in a manifesto appeal to the civilised world on behalf of the widows and orphans of the ruined Boer people. They state that they are about to tour in Europe and America with the view of organising a fund.

They declare that ten times the small sum granted by Britain would be insufficient to cover even the direct losses of the war.

London, Sept. 23.

The Martial Law Commission in South Africa has prepared a first list recommending the immediate release of 113 persons.

Calcutta, Sept. 24.

The *Daily Mail* states that the contribution of the new colonies to the expenses of the war has been fixed at one hundred millions.—*Indian Daily News Special*.

Calcutta, Sept. 24.

Reports from Spa state that the Princess Stephanie was kneeling in prayer in the death chamber of her mother when she was informed of the King's order to depart. She immediately returned to the hotel, whence she drove in a hired carriage to the station. In response to sympathetic cheers she said: "Thank you, dear citizens."

She has now returned to England.—*Indian Daily News Special*.

London, Sept. 23.

The chief Boljindaz (who headed the Albanians mentioned on the 4th instant as capturing a *crass*) and party have destroyed the railway between Vuchitina and Mitrovitza and hold Mitrovitza in defiance of the Turkish troops sent to expel them.

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